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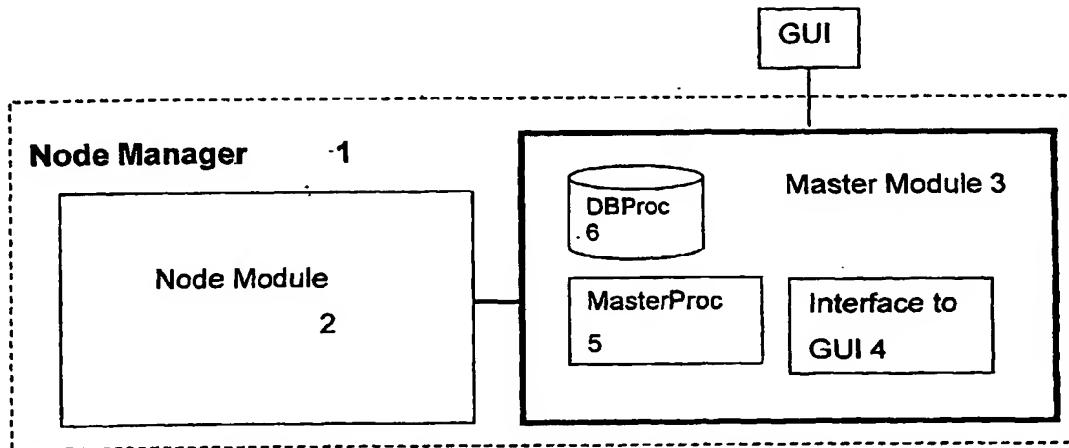
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NETWORK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a method of managing a network, especially an optical network, including a plurality of nodes which are interconnected in an arbitrary topology so as to be capable of carrying traffic between selected nodes, comprising the steps of providing a supervisory network by means of supervisory channels between the nodes; providing a node manager which is comprised of one or more software modules in each node; establishing of supervisory connections over one or more supervisory channels between selected nodes through which the node manager communicates with other node manager in other nodes; providing a node module in each node manager that provides an interface to the hardware settings of the respective node; providing a master module in at least one node manager; establishing of supervisory connections over one or more supervisory channels between selected nodes through which the master module communicates with the node modules; amending and/or monitoring of hardware settings in selected nodes with respective node module of the node; controlling of the amendments carried out by the node modules and/or processing of the monitored hardware settings by the master module.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	HARRIS C D: "Bridging the network management gap: how element managers can streamline SONET network management and provide a migration path for broadband management", COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS, 1995., CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1995 IEEE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PHOENIX CONFERENCE ON SCOTTSDALE, AZ, USA 28-31 MARCH 1995, NEW YORK, NY, USA, IEEE, US, PAGE(S) 219-225 XP010149384 ISBN: 0-7803-2492-7 page 220, left-hand column, line 10 - line 13 page 220, right-hand column, line 1 - line 13 page 221, right-hand column, line 38 - line 51 ----- -/-	1,13-15, 18
Y	----- -----	2-12,16, 17

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6 363 416 B1 (NAEIMI RAMIN ET AL) 26 March 2002 (2002-03-26) column 2, line 13 - line 33 column 5, line 2 - line 7 column 5, line 57 -column 6, line 4 column 8, line 29 - line 31 -----	2-6,16, 17
Y	CUKIER M ET AL: "AQuA: an adaptive architecture that provides dependable distributed objects", RELIABLE DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS, 1998. PROCEEDINGS. SEVENTEENTH IEEE SYMPOSIUM ON WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, USA 20-23 OCT. 1998, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US, PAGE(S) 245-253 XP010319083 ISBN: 0-8186-9218-9 section 3.1 -----	7-12

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Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6363416	B1 26-03-2002	NONE	